



STATE OF IOWA

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 989

TO: Iowa Medicaid Indian Health Services (IHS) Providers

ISSUED BY: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

DATE: March 7, 2011

SUBJECT: Billing Indian Health Services to the IME

EFFECTIVE: January 1, 2011

Enrollment into the Medicaid provider network can be based on recognition as an Indian Health Service (IHS) provider by the federal government under Public Law 93-638; IHS providers and their services are sometimes referred to as a "638 provider." Services provided under this certification can be paid by Medicaid if they are rendered to a member classified as a Native American/Alaska Native (NA/AN). The purpose of this Informational Letter is to confirm the proper process for billing IHS services to the IME.

Encounter code T1015 must be used to bill for all IHS encounters, regardless of the underlying service(s) that are provided. The T1015 encounter code must always be billed on the first line of any claim for IHS services. The encounter rate paid to each IHS is intended to be "all-inclusive" of any and all services rendered for a given date of service and member.

After the T1015 line, IHS providers are also expected to list all additional information on their claim that describes the specific types of services they provided on the second and subsequent claim lines using the applicable specific procedure code(s) that otherwise made up the full encounter. This is "informational only" and such lines should be billed at \$0.00. Those additional claim lines will deny, but the information about the services rendered will be captured for reporting and tracking purposes.

Note: Services not covered under "638" (e.g., not provided to a Native American/Alaska Native) will deny. If such services were provided by an entity that is (also) a "638", they would need to be billed based on whatever standard Medicaid provider category would normally apply (such as physician, hospital, etc.). Contact provider enrollment in cases where those would need to be established with the IME.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909 or 256-4609 (in Des Moines) or by e-mail imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us. If you have questions regarding enrollment or certification, please contact the IME Provider Enrollment at 1-800-338-7909 (select option 2) or 256-4609 (option 2, in Des Moines).